

Manel García Sánchez. “Le realeza aqueménida :  
¿reyes o dioses?” [“Achaemenid Kingship: Were  
They Kings or Gods?”]

Gian Pietro Basello

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## REFERENCES

Manel García Sánchez. “Le realeza aqueménida : ¿reyes o dioses?” [“Achaemenid Kingship: Were They Kings or Gods?”], *Arys*, vol. 12, 2014, p. 129-158.

- 1 García Sánchez, through an exhaustive analysis of Achaemenid royal inscriptions and classical sources, deals with the question of the divinity of the Achaemenid kings (on this subject, see also Wiesehöfer 2014, “Not a God, but a Person Apart” [abstract by SAB in this volume]). In particular, the royal titulary (with ‘absolute and hyperbolic titles’), the moral qualities of the king, and his duties towards the truth and against the lie seem to suggest that we are facing ‘a god-king, both a king and a god, a god among men’. However, the author, interpreting ‘some of the gestures and ritual deferences of the Achaemenid kingship and royal protocol, especially the *proskýnesis*’ as a way to ‘mark and respect the hierarchy imposed by the monarchic institution’, concludes that the Achaemenid king was not a god but ‘a King who could rule thanks to god’s support ..., that is to say, an intermediary between gods and men’.

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